

**APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR EASING USE OF A SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC
BASED NONINVASIVE ANALYZER**

ABSTRACT

A placement guide apparatus with an improved hydration inducing plug used in
5 coupling a noninvasive analyzer to a sampling site to determine analyte in the
human body is disclosed. The hydration inducing plug includes at least one
fluoropolymer that may be used as a coupling agent. The guide apparatus may
further include an automated or semi-automated coupling fluid delivery system. Use
of either of these couplers mitigates issues associated with related technology and
10 enhances noninvasive analyte measurements, such as a near-IR diffuse reflectance
based noninvasive glucose concentration analyzer.